Strengthening of Naval Force

3048. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the PRIME MINISTER had recently stressed on the naval preparedness of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the programme of building submarines which was held up earlier has since been restored, if so, the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) whether the naval defence force envisaged in 1964 has been updated and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what other steps are being taken to strengthen the navel force of the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d): The force level requirements and modernisation of the Defence Services, including the Navy, are being carried out in accordance with long term perspective plans and the successive Annual Plans. The Navy is maintained in a state of preparedness to handle any arising exigency. The indigenous submarine construction programme is under way.

Compulsory NCC Training in Schools and Colleges

*3049. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce compulsory N.C.C. training in schools and colleges;

(b) whether this course would provide vital break through to youth to buildup adventure activity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE {SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a): No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

Pepsi Foods entering vegetable product market

3050. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pepsi Foods have entered into processed food and vegetable product markets; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The Company has started manufacturing processing and selling extruded cereal products, potato chips, tomatoes, pears, kinnows etc.

Joint ventures in food processing

3051. SHRI MENTAY PADMA-NABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 371 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1992 and state what are the details of the 17 joint venture proposals in the field of food processing industries cleared by Government indicating therein the financial aspects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): Details of the 17 joint venture proposals in deep sea fishing are given in the Statement.

Previously UnStarred Question 1880, transferred from the 4th December, 1992.